

Pomegranate - Plant description:

Pomegranate (*Punica granatum* L.; Family: Punicaceae) is a small tree, measuring less than 4 m when cultivated, although it can reach 7 m in the wild. Some trees may live longer than 100 years. The root is knotty, consistent and reddish, well developed and extremely absorbent in saline soils. Numerous suckers grow beside the trunk and have to be eliminated occasionally. The leaves in vegetative or mixed clusters measure about 2 to 9 cm in length and 1 to 3 cm in width. They are entire, smooth, opposed, with no stipule, sometimes verticillate, hairless, oblong, deciduous and with short petioles. The flowers appear singly or in small clusters generally of 2-7 flowers, occasionally at the end of the branch but sometimes on the auxiliary buds. They are spectacular, with a pear shaped thallus, concave and fleshy, almost seated, single or in groups of 2-7, with bell-shaped calyx. The petals, 5-9, are wrinkled, alternating with and longer than the sepals and scarlet. The shorter sepals (5-9) alternate with the petals and form a continuous fleshy red crenelation. The fruit is a fleshy berry denominated balausta, thickskinned, complex, enclosed by the thallus, with various polyspermal cavities separated by tenuous membranous partitions (carpelar membranes). The interior is filled with many fleshy seeds, prismatic in shape, with pulpy testa and woody tegmen, very juicy. The ripe fruit is greenish yellow or brown with reddish areas which may occasionally occupy the whole surface of the fruit



Quality Pomegranate
Weight - average 500 grams
Size -6 to 12 cm (shorting as per requirement)



